

EXHIBIT A

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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| Application Number | 10/621,027 |
| Filing Date | July 16, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | CHEUNG, Nai-Kong V. |
| Art Unit | 1623 |
| Examiner Name | Eric Olson |
| Attorney Docket Number | 639-B-PTC-US |

Sheet 1 of 2

OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| | 1 | ENGSTAD and RAA, 1999, "Immune-stimulation improving health and performance," Feed Magazine (Kraftfutter) 7-8, 261-266 | |
| | 2 | FURUE et al., 1995, "Clinical evaluation of schizophyllan (SPG) in advanced gastric cancer (the second report): a randomized controlled study," Gan To Kagaku Ryoho, 12: 1272-1277 (with English abstract) | |
| | 3 | HERRE et al., February 2004, "Dectin-1 and its role in the recognition of β -glucans by macrophages," Mol. Immunol. 40(12):869-876 | |
| | 4 | KERNODLE et al., March 1998, "Prophylactic Anti-Infective Activity of Poly-[1-6]- β -D-Glucopyranosyl-[1-3]- β -D-Glucopyranosyl Glucan in a Guinea Pig Model of Staphylococcal Wound Infection," Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, 42(3):645-649 | |
| | 5 | MAYELL M, February 2001, "Maitake Extracts and Their Therapeutic Potential - A Review," Altern. Med. Rev., 6(1):48-60 | |
| | 6 | NAKAO et al., 1983, "Clinical evaluation of schizophyllan (SPG) in advanced gastric cancer-a randomized comparative study by an envelope method," Gan To Kagaku Ryoho, 10: 1146-1159 (with English abstract) | |
| | 7 | NAKAZATO et al., 1994, "Efficacy of immunotherapy as adjuvant treatment after curative resection of gastric cancer," The Lancet, 343:1122-1126 | |
| | 8 | NICOLOSI et al., 1999, "Plasma lipid changes after supplementation with β -glucan fiber from yeast," Am. J. Clin. Nutr., 70:208-212 | |
| | 9 | SELJELID et al., 1996, "A water soluble aminated β -1,3-D-glucose derivative caused regression of solid tumors in mice," Bioscience Reports 6:845-852 | |
| | 10 | TORISU et al., 1990, "Significant prolongation of disease-free period gained by oral polysaccharide K (PSK) administration after curative surgical operation of colorectal cancer," Cancer Immunology Immunotherapy, 31 (5):261-268 | |

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|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 |
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